

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 16 are pending. In the August 11, 2004 Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, the Examiner identified that each claim was not provided with a proper status identifier. Specifically, claim 1's status identifier was labeled as "amended."

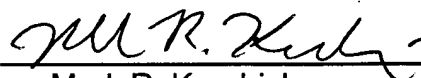
Applicant has provided claim 1 with the proper status identifier, i.e., "currently amended." Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has been satisfied, and the pending claims (original and currently amended) are in compliance. Accordingly, the applicant submits that the pending claims (original and currently amended) may be entered into the record and the amendment may be examined.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 18, 2004

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